ABSTRACT

A method for generating a file object identifier. A computer allocates memory to store the identifier. The disk volume holding the file object, the disk block holding the file object, and the value of the offset within the disk block holding the file object are stored in the allocated memory. In one embodiment, the file object is a file, a directory, or a symbolic link. In another embodiment, the memory allocated is 32 bits. In yet another embodiment, the disk volume value is a 4-bit value. In still another embodiment, the disk block value is a 23-bit value. In another embodiment, the block offset value is a 5-bit value. In another embodiment, the offset within the disk block is a multiple of 128 byte increments. In one embodiment, the generated file object identifier is a PORTABLE OPERATING SYSTEM INTERFACE (POSIX) file serial number.

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